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Economic and Social Council

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United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
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8-11 September 1998
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

For action

Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work

For the second regular session of 1998 of the Executive Board to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 8 to 11 September 1998

Summary

The present document contains the provisional annotated agenda for the second regular session of 1998 of the Executive Board. The annex contains the proposed timetable and organization of work for the session.

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Provisional agenda

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Provisional annotated agenda

1. Opening of the session: statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

Introductory statements will be made by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
[FOR ACTION]

The provisional agenda has been structured in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions, in particular the 1998 programme of work adopted by the Board at its third regular session in September 1997 (E/ICEF/1997/12/Rev.1, decision 1997/30). The proposed timetable and organization of work, which was shared with the Bureau (CF/EB/1998/031 of 15 June 1998), is contained in the annex.

Draft decisions will be adopted as the discussion of each agenda item is concluded. However, if required, time will be set aside for Board members to consult informally on all outstanding draft decisions.

3. Oral report on decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council

In view of the fact that the Economic and Social Council would still be in session beyond the deadline for the submission of documents for the present session to the United Nations for processing, it was agreed that the secretariat would report orally on issues of concern to UNICEF related to the conclusions and follow-up of the Council's 1998 substantive session. A written report will be submitted to the Board at its first regular session of 1999.

4. Medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/13]

The MTP is a two-year rolling plan within a four-year horizon. This report comprises an overview of the global context into which children are born, the vision for children into the twenty-first century, the organizational priorities, objectives and strategies, an estimation of a funding target and the financial MTP, and monitoring and reporting on implementation of the MTP. The Executive Board may wish to consider and approve the draft decision contained in the report.

5. Draft strategy on resource mobilization
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/14)

As requested by the Executive Board at its first regular session in January 1998 (E/ICEF/1998/6 (Part I), decision 1998/6), this report was prepared for discussion at the present session with a view to adopting a resource mobilization strategy at the first regular Board session in 1999. The Executive Board may wish to comment on the report and provide guidance to the secretariat, as required.

6. Review of the recovery policy of UNICEF
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.6)

At its third regular session of 1994, the Executive Board requested the Executive Director to review the application of the interim recovery policy and to report thereon to the Board in 1999 (E/ICEF/1994/13/Rev.1, decision 1994/R.3/5). The report is being submitted to the Board at the present session, as requested by the Executive Director at the January 1998 session, so that the decision of the Board can be incorporated into the budget preparation process for the next biennium (E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.1, para. 34). The Board may wish to consider and approve the draft decision contained in the report.

The Board also will have before it for review the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on this document (E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.12).

7. Proposals for UNICEF programme cooperation

[FOR ACTION]

There are a total of 28 CPRs being submitted to the Board for approval. Of those, 13 have been prepared as addenda to the country notes considered by the Board at its first regular session in January, pursuant to decision 1995/8 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1). In accordance with that decision, those CPRs will be approved on a "no objection" basis, and any Board member wishing that a particular country programme be brought before the Board for discussion is required to inform the secretariat of its intention in writing by Friday, 28 August.

The breakdown by region is as follows: Eastern and Southern Africa - Angola and Kenya (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.8/Add.1 and E/ICEF/1998/P/L.10/Add.1); West and Central Africa - Benin, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia and Mauritania (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.11/Add.1-E/ICEF/1998/P/L.14/Add.1); Americas and the Caribbean - Ecuador (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.15/Add.1); East Asia and the Pacific - the Philippines and Thailand (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.16/Add.1 and E/ICEF/1998/P/L.17/Add.1); South Asia - India, Maldives and Pakistan (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.31, E/ICEF/1998/P/L.18/Add.1 and E/ICEF/1998/P/L.19/Add.1); and the Middle East and North Africa - Djibouti (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.20).

In addition, there are 14 other CPRs, either for short-duration ("bridging"), additional general resources or stand-alone supplementary funding proposals, submitted to the Board for approval. They include Mozambique, Somalia, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, the Niger, Colombia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iraq, Yemen, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.23-E/ICEF/1998/P/L.38, respectively.

The "round-up" paper (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.21) summarizes the 1998 recommendations for general resources and supplementary funding proposals.

8. Review of the consideration and approval process of country programme recommendations

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/P/L.22]

At its first regular session in February 1995, the Executive Board established new procedures for the consideration and approval process of CPRs (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decision 1995/8). The decision also called for a review of the arrangements in 1998, and this report responds to that request. The Executive Board may wish to consider and approve the draft decision contained in the report.

9. Report on internal audit activities

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.7]

As part of its consideration of the agenda item on implementation of management excellence in UNICEF at its third regular session in September 1997, the Executive Board reviewed a report on the UNICEF system of oversight and the activities of the Office of Internal Audit and the Division of Evaluation, Policy and Planning (E/ICEF/1997/AB/L.12). In its decision 1997/28 on this subject, the Board welcomed the proposal of the Executive Director to issue an annual report on internal audit activities beginning in 1998 for Board consideration.

10. Financial matters

(a) UNICEF financial report and statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1997 and report of the Board of Auditors

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.8]

This report is presented to the Board on an annual basis for review and noting. This year it is submitted in line with General Assembly resolution 50/204 of 23 December 1995, and the formats agreed upon by the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

(b) Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.9]

As an ongoing practice, UNICEF has been submitting a report to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to advise the Assembly as to the measures that the organization will take to implement the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors.

The present report reviews the implementation by UNICEF of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors in its report on the UNICEF accounts for the biennium 1996-1997. The report also discusses the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts for the biennium 1994-1995. It is submitted to the Board for information.

(c) GCO financial reports and statements for the year ended 30 April 1997 and for the period 1 May-31 December 1997

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.10 and E/ICEF/1998/AB/L.11]

The Board will have before it for review the financial report for the 1996 season, 1 May 1996-30 April 1997, as well as for the eight-month period of 1 May-31 December 1997. These two reports are presented in order to regularize the cycle with the approved change of the GCO fiscal year to 1 January-31 December (E/ICEF/1996/12/Rev.1, decision 1996/22 C 5). (As of 1 January 1998, GCO is known as the Private Sector Division.)

11. Report on the first meeting of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/15]

The Executive Board reviewed and took note of the proposed terms of reference of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA CCH (E/ICEF/1997/21), already approved by the WHO Executive Board at its third regular session in September 1997. In its decision 1997/27 on this subject, the Board requested that its position be transmitted to the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA and WHO.

The first meeting of CCH was held in July 1998 in Geneva. The Executive Board may wish to consider and take note of the recommendations contained in the report.

12. Programme of work for 1999

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1998/CRP.12]

The Executive Board will consider the issues to be addressed at its 1999 sessions and its programme of work, including the allocation of items and organization of work.

13. Other matters

The Board may consider discussing any other issues that it finds timely and appropriate under this agenda item.

14. Closing of the session: remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

The Executive Director and the President will make concluding remarks, followed by the closure of the session.

Annex

Proposed timetable and organization of work for the second regular session of 1998 of the Executive Board, 8-11 September*

TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER	a.m.	Item 1	Opening of the session: statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director
		Item 2	Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
		Item 3	Oral report on decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council
	p.m.	Item 4	Medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001
WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER**	a.m. or p.m.	Item 4 (cont'd)	Medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 (continued)
		Item 5	Draft strategy on resource mobilization
THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER	a.m.	Item 6	Review of the recovery policy of UNICEF
		Item 7	Proposals for UNICEF programme cooperation
	p.m.	Item 7 (cont'd)	Proposals for UNICEF programme cooperation (continued)
FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER	a.m.	Item 8	Review of the consideration and approval process of country programme recommendations
		Item 9	Report on internal audit activities
		Item 10	Financial matters: (a) UNICEF financial report and statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1997 and report of the Board of Auditors*** (b) Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions*** (c) GCO financial reports and statements for the year ended 30 April 1997 and for the period 1 May-31 December 1997
	p.m.	Item 11	Report on the first meeting of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA CCH
		Item 12	Programme of work for 1999
		Item 13	Other matters
		Item 14	Closing of the session: remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

* When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.

** Since the opening of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly is scheduled for this date, the Executive Board will have to cancel one of its meetings. However, as of the date of the preparation of this agenda, the meeting plans for the General Assembly had not yet been finalized.

*** Due to the uncertainty of the scheduling of the review of the document by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, it may not be available for the present session. The Board may wish to consider whether it wishes to defer its review to the first regular session in January 1999.